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The Parish Council Newsletter

Welcome to the June 2019 edition of the Parish Council Newsletter. This two page version of the Newsletter is available on the Council's website. Paper copies of this version are also available from the Bartley Post Office, Woodington Feeds and the Courtesy Filling Station shop, Romsey Road.

The New Parish Council Starts – a Look Ahead

Following the elections on the 2nd May 2019, a new Parish Council met for the first time on the **14th May**. This was a more significant first meeting than usual, as, not only was it the first session of the new 4 year cycle for the Parish Council, but it was also the first session for our new **Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer (RFO), David Rigby!**

At this first meeting, the bulk of the agenda was concerned with the establishment of all the relevant posts on the Parish Council as well as the identification of all the memberships for working parties, such as Finance, the link personnel to other organisations and representations on the various local government bodies. As well as a list of Parish Councillor contact details, which have been posted on the Parish Noticeboards, all the relevant information resulting from these decisions will be posted on the Parish Council web site, but below, please find the core information for the new Parish Council:

Copythorne North Ward:

- Cllr. Simon Lucas – Councillor and Chairman
- Cllr. Steve Herra – Councillor and Vice Chairman
- Cllr. Kellyn Lee – Co-opted Councillor

Copythorne South Ward:

- Cllr. Graham Chillcott - Councillor
- Cllr. Sylvia Wiggins - Councillor
- Cllr. Lady Kara Hawks - Councillor
- Cllr. John Goodwin - Councillor

We are also very pleased to congratulate District Councillors **Diane Andrews, Derek Tipp and Joe Reilly** on their election to the New Forest District Council. It is especially good to see Joe Reilly as one of their number, given his very long association with us as a Parish Council member and past Chairman – **Welcome Joe!**

One of our activities at our first meeting was to ratify future meeting dates through to May 2020 (*Really? 2020? How did that date creep up on us ...??*) A full updated list is reproduced below and will also be published on the website (all meetings start at 7.00 pm in the Parish hall Annexe):

- Tuesday 11th June – **Full Council Meeting**
- Tuesday 9th July – **Full Council Meeting**
- August – **No Meeting**
- Tuesday 10th September – **Full Council Meeting**
- Tuesday 8th October – **Full Council Meeting**
- Tuesday 12th November – **Full Council Meeting**
- Tuesday 10th December – **Full Council Meeting**

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- Tuesday 14th January – **Full Council Meeting**
- Tuesday 11th February – **Full Council Meeting**
- Tuesday 10th March – **Full Council Meeting**
- Tuesday 24th March – **Annual Parish Meeting**
(NOTE this meeting starts at 7.30 pm)
- Tuesday 14th April – **Full Council Meeting**
- Tuesday 12th May – **Annual Parish Council Meeting**
(First meeting of the 2020-2021 Parish Council Year)

The New Parish Council Starts – a Look Ahead (cont.)

The Parish Council is very keen to begin development of the proposed **5 Year Local Parish Plan** and as readers will know, consultation documents have been placed on the Parish Council web site for you to express your views. The consultation close date is 7th June. If you've missed that deadline but still want to submit something, then please get in touch with the Clerk at the contact details below to discuss how you can get your comments to us.

As a part of this, we are already looking at some specific issues which need to appear on the forward plan – notably how we can continue to develop our closer working with the community on development issues.

We expect to be publishing a full draft of the 5 Year Local Parish Plan in September, **so watch this space for future updates!**

Other News – Telephone Boxes and Benches

Telephone Boxes: As many members of the community will already know, Copythorne Parish Council has adopted 3 ex- British Telecom telephone boxes. This is part of a scheme run by BT to maintain the telephone box presence for 'other possible uses', while removing it from service for telephony.

All three are examples of the iconic **Red Jubilee Kiosks** we have come to know and love. The boxes are situated around the Parish and an ongoing Parish Council Study is looking at how to make best use of them. The intention is to turn the telephone boxes into community phone boxes.

The one in **Newbridge Road** is a good example of how a community phone box can look. It contains a brief local history, a history of Jubilee Kiosks, photographs of Copythorne Parish Church and a local wedding.

In the first instance it is proposed to put 4 or 5 waterproof information panels on the back walls of the other 2 phone boxes. The idea is also to equip all three with a suitably protected A3 size map of Copythorne Parish, showing Rights of Way, footpaths, bridleways, historic routes and points of interest etc. across the Parish. It is also intended to produce a suitably protected A4 size brief history of K6 Jubilee Kiosks for the phone boxes in **Winsor Road** and **Pound Lane**. The History Society will also be providing some input. Once these improvements have had a chance to bed in, the Parish Council will look at how best to further augment the contents.



If you have any ideas on future developments involving the Boxes, please contact the Clerk, details below.

Benches: The Parish Council looks after a number of benches within the Parish. These are a well-used resource for tired walkers to pause awhile or to act as a way point on a longer ramble.

We have been looking at some benches which have shown signs of deterioration over the years and have identified that we will either need to undertake some major repairs or plan a replacement programme.

Of particular concern is one of the two wooden benches at the **war memorial**, which has now had warning tape put on it, as well as **both benches on the playing field at the Parish Hall**, one of which is similarly taped off.

We are investigating possible replacements and as a result of the experience of obtaining the new bench outside the British Legion on Winsor Road, which is made from recycled plastic and metal, may well look to provide similar ones at the locations mentioned.

In the meantime, please bear with us on this, as the replacement programme will take a while to resource and action!

Date of the Next Parish Council Meeting: The next two Parish Council meetings will take place on **Tuesday 11th June 2019** and **Tuesday 9th July** both at **7.00 p.m. Parish Hall Annexe**.

The Clerk to the Council, David Rigby, can be contacted by post at: 9, The Cleaves, West Totton, Southampton, SO40 8WL or by telephone: 02381120150 or by email at: parishclerk@copythorne.org.uk; website: www.copythorne.org.uk. Details of individual Parish Councillors, and information on District and County Councillors, can also be found on the Parish Council Website and on community notice boards.

PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF ADDRESS FOR THE CLERK